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Letter dated 4 August 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Slovenia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

It was with considerable surprise that we saw several documents of the Security Council signed by Mr. Bratislav Djordjević as "Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations".

As you will recall, the Security Council and the General Assembly stated, back in September 1992, that the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia had ceased to exist and that the "Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro)" should apply for membership in the United Nations.

Almost three years have passed since the adoption of the basic Security Council and General Assembly decisions on this matter. Subsequent practice has been characterized by ad hoc arrangements that sought to assist the "Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro)" to apply for membership in the United Nations. As you know, this has not been done to date. Instead, we are witnessing repeated attempts by the "Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro)" to present itself as a State continuing the United Nations membership of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia that had ceased to exist. The case of the mentioned "Chargé d'affaires" belongs to this category.

This absurd situation, which is highlighted by continuing operation of a "permanent mission" of a defunct State and by the circulation of documents signed by representatives of a non-member State, must be brought to an end. An

* A/50/150.

arrangement that looked like a flexible short-term compromise three years ago has become an element of diminished credibility of the United Nations. Perpetuating disregard of the norms governing the admission of new Members to the United Nations would further diminish its credibility.

I therefore respectfully suggest that you initiate consideration of this matter by the Security Council, in accordance with the agreement by the members of the Council referred to in document S/26466 of 17 September 1993, and propose specific measures to eliminate the current irregularities.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 8 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Danilo TÜRK
Permanent Representative